

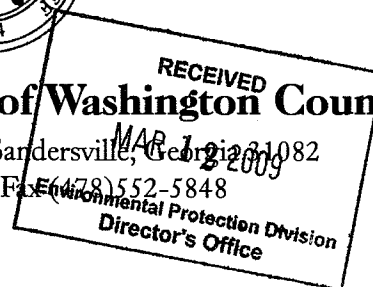
Thomas H. Smith
Sheriff



Office of the Sheriff of Washington County

Post Office Drawer 30 • Sandersville, Georgia 31082

(478) 552-4795 • Fax (478) 552-5848



March 1, 2009

Dr. Carol A. Couch
Director, Georgia Environmental Protection Division
Georgia Department of Natural resources
2 Martin Luther King Jr. Drive
Atlanta, Ga. 30334

RECEIVED

MAR 18 2009

AIR PROTECTION BRANCH

Dear Dr. Couch,

My reason for writing you today is to ask for your support and assistance regarding the Power4Georgians request to construct Plant Washington here in Washington County. I believe this project will bring many desperately needed secure jobs to our area.

As Sheriff of Washington county I am concerned about the welfare of the citizens of this county. I believe there is a direct correlation between poverty and crime and having this kind of economic development come to our county will have a positive effect, therefore making our community safer and raising the standard of living for all.

Our schools work hard to give our children a good education, but after graduating they are too often forced to leave our county and go elsewhere to find good employment. Plant Washington and the ancillary benefits that it will provide will help us give our youth more options to stay at home to find good employment.

I think for these reasons and many others, Plant Washington would be great for Washington County.

Thank You,

Thomas H. Smith, Sheriff
Washington County